

DIPLOMATS FEAR BUT FEW CHANGES

Special Correspondence.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Guessing has already commenced as to how changes will be made after March 4 in the diplomatic service. Most people seem to think that, as Judge Taft was so closely identified with the administration and policies of President Roosevelt, he will make comparatively few appointments after he becomes president for the first two years at least, at the more important posts. With the change of an administration at Washington the custom is for the am-

bassadors and ministers of the United States to tender their resignations to the incoming president, and if he wishes them to remain he is quick to advise them of that fact; otherwise he indicates that he is looking around for a successor to this or that diplomat. The general supposition is that Whitelaw Reid, Henry White and David J. Hill, ambassadors to Great Britain, France and Germany respectively, will be retained by President Taft. There have been some rumors, however, that Mr. Reid, who is not in robust health, will ask to be released, for there is talk here and elsewhere that a new man may be assigned to King Edward's court.

DIPLOMATIC PROMOTIONS.

More actual promotions in the diplomatic service have been made by the Roosevelt administration than in any other. Dr. Hill, the ambassador to Germany, was for some years assistant secretary of the state department before he was appointed minister to The Netherlands and sub-

sequently placed at the head of our embassy at Berlin. Henry White, ambassador to France, was for many years first secretary of the legation, and the embassy later, at London. He is perhaps the most thoroughly trained man in the diplomatic service. William W. Rockhill, minister at Peking, is considered by long odds the most valuable man in the service in the orient. He was for many years an official of the state department and was minister to Greece and the Balkan states before going to China. Irving B. Dudley and William C. Fox, ambassadors to Brazil and minister to Ecuador respectively, are regarded as the most skilled and experienced diplomats we have in the South American countries. In 1897 Judge Dudley was appointed by the late President McKinley minister to Peru and he remained continuously at Lima until promoted and transferred to Rio de Janeiro. Minister Fox was nearly 20 years in the consular service and just before his appointment as minister at Quito was head of the bureau of American republics.

STOLE A MARCH.

Judge Dudley's original selection for the diplomatic service was a jolt and surprise for the California delegation in Congress. He was living in the time in San Diego, having been a resident of that Pacific slope city for only a few years. His first fancy was the Hawaiian mission. Mr. Queen Lili had not then been deposed. That position chance to be given to another. Later Judge Dudley was offered and accepted the Peruvian mission. None of the California delegation had endorsed him, and they were much wrought up when this desirable berth was credited to their state. Judge Dudley did not mean to be rude and ignore the congressmen from California, but he wanted to get into the diplomatic service very badly. Judge Dudley is an Ohio man by birth and rearing and when a young man was a teacher for Senator Hanna's children.

THE REASON WHY.

Some Democrats from Missouri who have visited the capital since the election have been questioned minutely as to why their state, which used to be so reliably Democratic, has gone Republican in the last two presidential contests. "That's easy enough to explain," said one man, and most of the others corroborate the explanation, "for from 130,000 to 150,000 people who formerly lived in Missouri have within the past six years moved to Oklahoma. Nine-tenths of those voters who left Missouri were Democrats. The new people who have settled in Missouri within the same period were mostly Republicans."

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

At the present session of Congress it is understood that a general river and harbor bill will be passed. No measure of this sort was put through last session, but in the sundry civil bill appropriations running well into the millions were made for the projects under way, which are known as continuing contracts.

A GREAT TRAVELER.

John A. Fox, one of the delegates from Arkansas to the national rivers and harbors congress, is such an enthusiastic advocate of the proper improvement of the waterways of the country that during the past year he has visited most of the states of the Union and traveled something like 50,000 miles in order to arouse interest in the subject. This is more than double the traveling done by William J. Bryan in his first contest for the presidency, and at that time it was considered that Mr. Bryan had covered a considerable extent of territory.

WEATHER REPORT

Judging from the rapidly falling barometer today there is a big storm in prospect. The high area that was pushing this way yesterday, from San Francisco passed to the northeast and over the low area the dropped down to this latitude to unite with the low area pressing up from the south. Two-thirds of the United States are now under a low barometer, with snow indications for tonight and tomorrow.

The storm has further developed over the plateau, and it is central over western Colorado this morning, causing rain or snow over portions of Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, California, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, Minnesota and Missouri. Another disturbance is moving off the north Atlantic coast. Over central Canada, and the region and the valley, the barometric is high. Light frost is reported at Los Angeles. The temperature changes are slight, with no zero temperatures at time of report.

The minimum mercury is moderately high so the snow continues wet and there is a good deal of slush on the streets. The street car management has the six big sweepers out, covering all the lines so that there has been no delay in travel. The fall of snow in the mountains is heavy, making snow slides more than possible. Up to date the telegraph and telephone companies have suffered no special inconveniences; but as the storm continues there are probabilities of trouble.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Record at the local office, United States weather bureau, for 24 hours ending at 6 a. m. today: Temperature at 6 a. m., 24; maximum, 32; minimum, 24; mean, 28, which is 4 degrees below normal. Total excess since the first of the month, 19.1 degrees; total deficiency since Jan. 1, 5.31 degrees; precipitation at 6 a. m., trace; total since the first of the month, .06 inch, which is .50 inch below normal. Total excess since Jan. 1, 5.11 inches. Relative humidity, 85 per cent.

TODAY'S TEMPERATURES.

6 a. m. 21
7 a. m. 23
8 a. m. 25
9 a. m. 26
10 a. m. 27
11 a. m. 28
12 m. 28
1 p. m. 27

YESTERDAY'S RECORD.

Highest 34
Lowest 25

A NIGHT RIDER OUTRAGE.

Penrod, Ky., Dec. 15.—The tobacco factory of Lewis Kirkpatrick and 5,000 pounds of tobacco owned by the H. N. Martin company of Louisville were destroyed by fire, presumably started by nightriders, early today.

PINE BLUFF'S LOSS

IS FORT SMITH'S GAIN

Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 16.—While the city of Pine Bluff has been damaged to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars by the recent overflowing waters of the Arkansas river, Fort Smith has benefited by thousands of dollars. The current of the

river is flowing directly under the draw span of the iron mountain railroad bridge which will have the effect in all probability of causing the secretary of war to change his the rather the conveniently chance the span to the east end of the bridge.

FIFTEEN PERSONS KILLED ON A FRENCH RAILROAD

Limoges, Dec. 15.—A collision between a freight and passenger train here today resulted in the death of 15 persons and the injury of others. Fire

broke out after the collision and most of the victims, including the engineer of the passenger train, were pinned beneath the wreckage and burned to death. The collision occurred in the Pouch Tunnel between here and Brissac.

PLATT WILL PUBLISH HIS RECOLLECTIONS

New York, Dec. 15.—United States Senator Thomas C. Platt will publish his memoirs in a magazine. It is understood that his recollections have been written with great freedom con-

cerning politicians, some of whom are therefore uneasy.

IK MARVEL DEAD.

One of America's Most Famous Writers Dies in a New Haven Suburb.

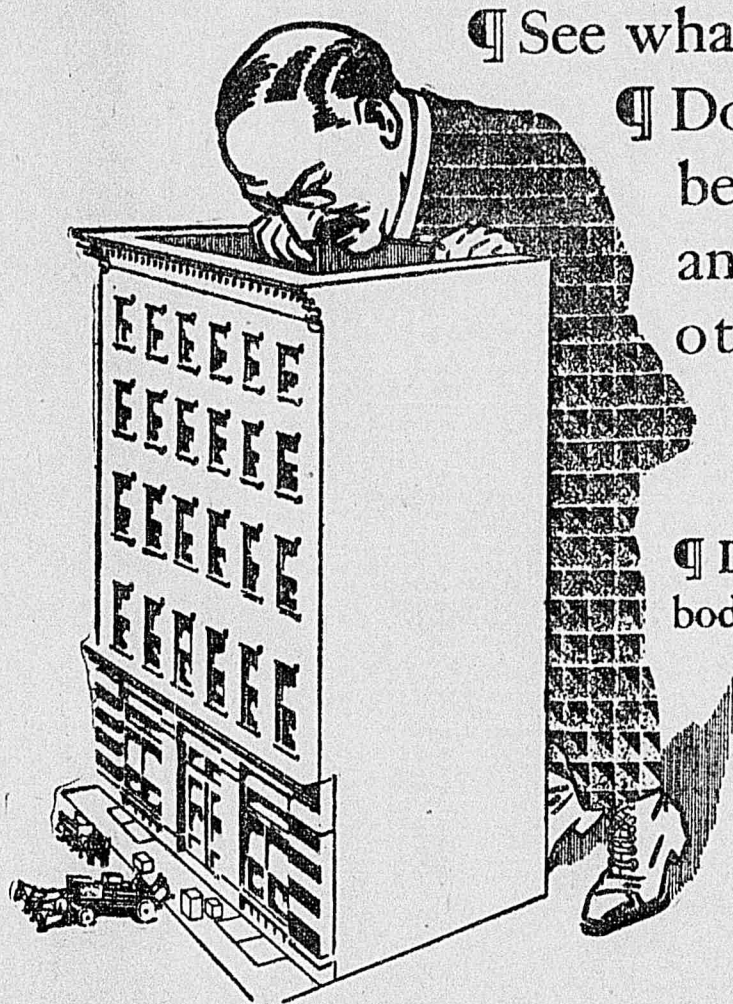
New Haven, Conn., Dec. 15.—Donald Grant Mitchell, 34 years old, the well known author, who wrote under the nom de plume "Ik Marvel," died at his home, Marvelwood, in Edgewood, a suburb, tonight. His illness dates to August last, when he suffered an attack of acute indigestion.

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

Via D. & R. G. R. R.

One single fare for the round trip between all points in Utah, Dec. 18, 19, 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1st. All tickets good returning until Jan. 4th.

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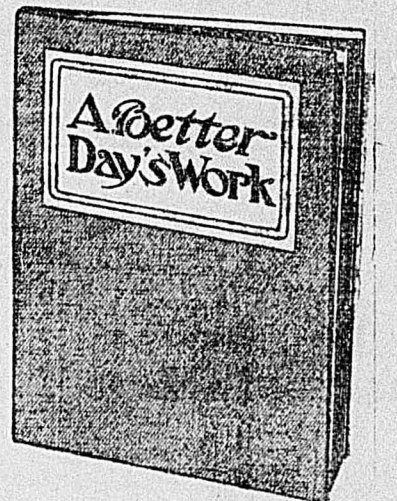
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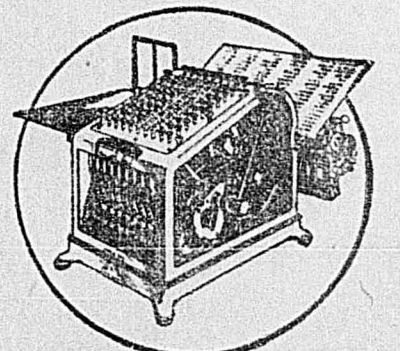
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